November 5–11, 2020 NEWS YOU CAN USE, NEWS YOU CAN TRUST 75¢

THE EAGLE

A PUBLICATION OF ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF MICHIGAN

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

No. 45 www.associatednewspapers.net

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE
Vol. 135, No. 45

The election may be over, but members of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees still have some concerns about inaccurate and misleading claims made during the campaign.

See page 6.

THE CANTON EAGLE
Vol. 73, No. 45

Third Annual Holiday Artisan Market has been rescheduled and will take place from noon until 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8 in the parking lot of the Summit on the Park.

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THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR
Vol. 73, No. 45

An Inkster couple has been arraigned on charges of torture, unlawful imprisonment and assault after a man allegedly escaped their home and was found by police.

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THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
Vol. 20, No. 45

A Westland man has been sent for trial in the Sept. 3 hit-and-run death of a Northville Township college student who was skateboarding on Sheldon Road.

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THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE
Vol. 20, No. 45

Plymouth residents may experience some intermittent low water pressure for the next week or so as city workers continue to flush and winterize all fire hydrants.

See page 4.

THE ROMULUS ROMAN
Vol. 135, No. 45

Volunteers planted 15 trees at Romulus Historical Park and Mary Ann Banks Parks Oct. 24 to increase the overall tree canopy in the parks and to provide environmental benefits.

See page 3.

THE WAYNE EAGLE
Vol. 73, No. 45

Three officers from the Wayne Police Department have tested positive for COVID-19 along with two employees at Wayne City Hall, according to an official posting.

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THE WESTLAND EAGLE
Vol. 73, No. 45

Hearts beat a little faster in Westland recently with the announcement of a grant to fund the replacement of 10 new cardiac monitor/defibrillators and 15 external defibrillators.

See page 4.

Schools coping with spike in infections

School administrators from throughout the area are awaiting the impact of the latest spike in COVID-19 cases on educational procedures.

While the more stringent guidelines issued by the Wayne County Health Department last week have not changed the rules for in-person or distance learning offered by the schools, Northville Public Schools Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher wrote to parents last week, advising them of the quarantine of 75 district students following homecoming parties and other off-campus social events and, in one case, a party bus. The Northville schools also faced a shortage of bus drivers at least one day last week due to required quarantine after exposure to the virus.

> *We do not, thus far, have any evidence of positive cases of COVID-19 tracing back to exposure at school or during school hours.*

Seven people at Canton High Schools previously tested positive for the virus and Plymouth Christian Academy in Canton Township reported "several" positive cases.

Van Buren Public Schools Superintendent Pete Kudlak told the members of the board of education last week that three people in the school system have tested positive for COVID-19. As a result, he said, 42 students had been quarantined since school began in September.

Those quarantined may have had close contact with those who tested positive for the virus, he said.

During the regular meeting, the board members reconfirmed the COVID-19 Learning Plan which details the manner of instruction for each grade. Every district must evaluate and confirm the plan every 30 days as required by the Michigan State Department of Education.

The health department rules issued Oct. 26 allow in-person instruction to proceed with strict mitigation measures in place. Health officials further note that if the community spread risk continues at the current level, the Wayne County Public Health Division could ill issue stricter guidelines. The Plymouth Canton Community Schools district has seen a total of 51 cases of COVID since remote classes began this fall. The district

See **Schools,** page 6

Michigan Philharmonic wins community honors

The Michigan Philharmonic orchestra has received special local recognition in honor of National Arts & Humanities Month.

October has been designated by the National Endowment for the Arts and Americans for the Arts as the month to celebrate the arts and humanities programs in local communities. Joining in presenting tributes to the Michigan Philharmonic, were local leaders from the City of Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton Township who each gave special recognition to the orchestra for their artistic endeavors in the community.

Recognizing the Michigan Philharmonic as a cultural anchor with performances and educational programs which have enhanced the cultural life of the of the area for the past 75 years, the leaders acknowledged the orchestra for reaching more than 20,000 adults and students annually.

The Michigan Philharmonic has been working diligently to keep music alive while meeting the challenges of the COVID 19 health crisis.

Support for the Michigan Philharmonic is available through the purchase of a Michigan Phil Season Passport which is a subscription program for both live and online concerts and educational programs. Passport members will receive links to watch all concerts online if uncomfortable attending live concerts in person. For information on the Passport and all the programming of the Michigan Philharmonic visit www.michiganphil.org.

The Michigan Philharmonic Music Director and Conductor Nan Washburn, who has been with the orchestra since 1999, has won 19 ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music from the League of American Orchestras.

In 2016 the Michigan Philharmonic received First Place in the American Prize for the Performance of American Music. The orchestra performs in an ever-expanding roster of Michigan communities; including Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Livonia, Brighton, downtown Detroit, and many others.

For tickets and more information, visit www.michiganphil.org or call (734) 451-2112. Find the Phil on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Canton

Pandemic forces Artisan Market to reschedule

Due to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) newly-imposed regulations regarding gatherings, the Third Annual Holiday Artisan Market has been rescheduled.

The popular event, originally scheduled for last Sunday, will now take place from noon until 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8 in the parking lot of the Summit on the Park,

Presented by the Canton Farmers Market, this special event will feature handmade gifts created by some of the areas top artisans and crafters. Participating vendors include: Boblin Honey - honey; Cathy V - knitted toys, baby booties, knitted rattles; Candle Heaven - candles and wax melts; Designs by Della - Christmas pillows/blankets, travel accessories, masks; Golden Wheat - French bread and pastries; Great Lakes Natural Soap Co. - soap and skin care; Indigo & Jade - bath and body products; Jan's Crafts & Such Gifts - wreaths and home décor; Olde Crow Primitives - wooden seasonal decor; One Tough Cookie - sugar cookies, cookie decorating kits; Purple Frog Jewelry - jewelry; Radiant Rock Bracelets - bracelets; Royal Court Creations - home decor, masks/ear savers; SDS Woodworking - vinyl art; Shabby Chick - decorated Mason jars; Spicegrrrl - spice blends; Uniquely Different - holiday jewelry, diffuser bracelets, home décor and White Pansy Boutique - kitchen towels, cutting boards, coasters.

> *By relocating our market outdoors, we will now be able accommodate even more market-goers.*

The Great Lakes Confections food truck will also be on site.

"Based on the State of Michigan's revised gathering limitations, we have decided to postpone this event until next weekend, as well as hold our market outside to take advantage of the warmer forecasted weather," stated Canton Farmers Market Manager Jennifer Franz. "By relocating our market outdoors, we will now be able accommodate even more market-goers in this safe environment.

Admission is free. Masks must be worn and social distancing guidelines must also be adhered to at all times.

Summit on the Park is located at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

Gift of Life

Donations impacted by virus surge

There are secondary threats to life during the current coronavirus pandemic as organ donation is impacted by infectious disease procedures at hospitals.

As the COVID-19 pandemic enters a new month, organ transplant recipients need to take extra precautions to protect themselves and Gift of Life Michigan is still working with hospital transplant centers to provide life-saving organs to patients in need.

> *We're still here and we're still doing the work that we always do.*

"We're still here and we're still doing the work that we always do," said Dorrie Dils, CEO of Gift of Life Michigan. "We're doing everything we can to engage people and make sure that people who are waiting for an organ transplant, or donors or donor families that still want to donate, that we're still here, and we're still making every effort to make that happen."

Those efforts have been impacted and often thwarted by the COVID-19 virus which has forced the delay of many non-critical transplants of organs and tissue. With the uncertainty surrounding the virus and how quickly it can spread, potential donors who test positive for the disease are not medically suitable for donation. Surgical procedures involved with transplants are also impacted as often there is simply no room in hospitals for securing the donated organs or the transplant.

"Transplants happen in hospitals and most all of our hospitals in Michigan - particularly southeast Michigan - are getting overwhelmed with COVID-positive patients, said Dils.

"Hospitals have to use their resources, like ventilators and ICU beds, to take care of those individuals. If there is a patient in the hospital who is critical and needs a new heart or a new liver, those transplants are still occurring, but many other individuals are waiting at home and can wait out this pandemic until a transplant is safer for them."

While patients can still receive transplants, transplant centers and physicians work with their patients to evaluate the risk of the transplant procedure and whether that risk outweighs the benefit of saving that individual's life. Right now, especially here in Michigan, transplants are being completed for people that are very, very sick and have no other option but to go ahead and receive that organ, Dils said.

She added that testing for infectious disease, including COVID-19, is performed and that all procedures recommended by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and the Centers for Disease Control have been implemented.

Gift of Life continues to advise organ transplant recipients and their caregivers to follow all CDC guidelines on social distancing and other preventive measures and to consult with their physicians if they think they have developed any symptoms of the disease.

Dils said she is proud of the way staff has stepped up to meet this unprecedented challenge and continue to provide hope for the thousands of people on the Organ Transplant Waiting List, as well as to honor the wishes of those who are already on it.

"I've seen people step up and do some remarkable things," she said. "They've been very creative; they've come up with solutions to overcome the barriers they face every day."

To sign up on the Michigan Organ Donor Registry, visit golm.org.

Robbery suspect is charged

A Canton Township man is facing several criminal charges in connection to burglaries and home invasions reported last week.

Michael Smith, 46 of Canton, was arraigned in 35th District Court Oct. 28 and is facing two counts of first degree home invasion, a 20-year felony; two counts of larceny over $1,000, a 5-year felony and two counts of habitual offender fourth, a sentence enhancer. Smith was arrested following a complaint from a resident on the 50000 block of Hesperus at about 10 p.m. Oct. 23. The resident told the responding officers that he had noticed multiple items missing from the attached garage.

Michael Smith

Police took a second report within the hour the same day when a neighbor also noticed items missing from his garage.

Home surveillance cameras captured images of the suspect and a vehicle, which led Canton police to a timely arrest, officials said.

Judge Ronald Lowe at the 35th District Court set Miller's bond at $125,000/10 percent for each home invasion at his arraignment. If released from police custody, Smith was ordered to wear a GPS tether.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed proposals at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, November 19, 2020 for the following:

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE SERVICES

Proposals may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on the MITN Purchasing Group website at https://www.bidnetdirect.com/mitn/cantontownship or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of proposal opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

MICHAEL SIEGRIST, CLERK

Publish 11/05/2020

CN2122 - 110520 2.5 x 2.072

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, November 19, 2020 for the following:

TURNOUT GEAR WASHER AND DRYING CABINET

Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on the MITN Purchasing Group website at https://www.bidnetdirect.com/mitn/cantontownship or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

MICHAEL SIEGRIST, CLERK

Publish 11/05/2020

CN2123 - 110520 2.5 x 2.072

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, November 19, 2020 for the following:

FURNACE REPLACEMENT FIRE STATION # 1

Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on the MITN Purchasing Group website at https://www.bidnetdirect.com/mitn/cantontownship or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

MICHAEL SIEGRIST, CLERK

Publish 11/05/2020

CN2124 - 110520 2.5 x 2.072

AGGRESSIVE LITIGATION

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& BACHAND, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS

74 WEST LONG LAKE ROAD
SUITE 200
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN 48304
(248) 645-1450 • FAX (248) 645-2311

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE
NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS
OFFICE CLOSING

The Charter Township of Northville Administrative Offices will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, 2020, in observance of Veterans Day. The offices will re-open at 8:00 am on Thursday, November 12, 2020.

POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY SERVICES WILL REMAIN AVAILABLE.

Marjorie Banner, Clerk

Publish: November 5, 2020

NT0098 - 110520 2.5 x 1.515

SNOW REMOVAL BIDS

The Township of Sumpter, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, is seeking sealed bids for snow removal of sidewalks, driveways, handicap ramps using Wayne County grant monies.

Bids must include the following:

1) Commercial Vehicle insurance for all vehicles used.
2) List of equipment used to provide snow removal.
3) Employer Federal Tax I.D.
4) Copy of Business License.
5) List of all drivers and their drivers' license numbers.
6) Liability insurance naming Sumpter Township as an additional insured. To be provided also from each contractor, if subcontractors are used to provide snow removal.
7) Workers compensation certificate if employees are used to provide service.
8) Payment to be supplied from Wayne County Grant Funds-all regulations to be complied with.
9) Sealed bids to be submitted to Township Clerks Office by November 16, 2020 at 3:00 pm. Bids to be opened November 16, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

The Township of Sumpter is an equal opportunity employer.

Publish November 5, 2020 and November 12, 2020

ST0023 - 110520 2.5 x 2.587

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon notice to the Charter Township of Canton.

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the Charter Township of Canton will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Employment: The Charter Township of Canton does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under Title II of the ADA.

Effective Communication: The Charter Township of Canton will generally, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in the Charter Township of Canton's programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: The Charter Township of Canton will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in the Charter Township of Canton's offices, even where pets are generally prohibited.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the Charter Township of Canton should contact the office of Barb Brouillette, Human Resources Coordinator, Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188, (734) 394-5260 as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

The ADA does not require the Charter Township of Canton to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Complaints that a program, service, or activity of the Charter Township of Canton is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to Barb Brouillette, Human Resources Coordinator, Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188, (734) 394-5260.

The Charter Township of Canton will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy, such as retrieving items from locations that are open to the public but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

Publish: 11/05/20

CN2121 - 110520 2.5 x 4.72

INKSTER - ROMULUS

A little 'ReLeaf'

Volunteers plant trees at local parks

ReLeaf Michigan, a statewide non-profit tree organization, in partnership with the City of Romulus, Medline Industries and the DTE Foundation, joined forces with local volunteers to plant 15 trees at Romulus Historical Park and Mary Ann Banks Parks Oct. 24. The trees were planted to increase the overall tree canopy in the parks and to provide environmental and health benefits.

Covid protocols were in place and were followed and masks were required of the volunteers who watched a tree planting demonstration from experts.

"Despite the pandemic, we remain committed to ensuring the City of Romulus is a place where residents and visitors want to live, work and play," said Romulus Mayor LeRoy Burcroff. "The partnership between Romulus, ReLeaf Michigan, Medline and DTE is a great opportunity for us to come together as a community, at a safe social distance, to plant trees that will continue to beautify our city in the years to come. This beautification initiative works in tandem with our efforts to reopen parks, improve walkability and enhance public spaces for our residents."

Medline, a medical products manufacturer and distributor located in Romulus, sent 20 employees who volunteered at the Saturday morning effort.

The company Director of Operations Jeremy Oetjens was also on site.

"Medline is a healthcare company, and we appreciate the public health value of planting trees in Romulus, Oetjens said. "Our team members live and work in this city, and we want the public to experience the benefit of additional tree cover."

"Trees provide incredible benefits to the communities in which they are planted. Trees improve air and water quality, reduce stormwater runoff, improve mental wellness, reduce rates of childhood asthma, cool our neighborhoods and enhance the community's commercial and economic vitality," a ReLeaf spokesman said.

ReLeaf Michigan, a 32-year-old non-profit organization, partners with communities statewide to replenish community tree canopies through volunteer tree planting events.

The DTE Foundation is a strong steward of the environment and over the past 23 years has helped plant nearly 47,000 trees and seedlings in more than 500 communities across the state of Michigan.

Couple is charged with imprisonment, torture

An Inkster couple has been arraigned on charges of torture, unlawful imprisonment and assault after a man allegedly escaped their home and was found by police.

The victim was allegedly held against his will and tortured by the Inkster couple who used a dog shock collar, boiling water, a towel soaked in dog urine, extension cords and a wooden board to torment him.

The victim escaped his captors' home on the 4000 block of Burton Oct. 22 and was found by Inkster police officers who took him to a hospital, according to WXYZ Detroit. He was wearing only underwear and was covered in bruises and injuries when he was found by police.

The criminal complaint alleges that Vera Miller, 38, and Corey Hill, 30, both of Inkster, put a dog shock collar on the victim and shocked him with it, forced him to chew on a dog urine-soaked towel, whipped him with extension cords, beat him with a wooden board, and forced him to put his hand in a bucket of boiling water for several minutes, the report said.

Miller and Hill were arraigned by video Tuesday, Oct. 27, on charges of torture, unlawful imprisonment and assault, according to police reports. They both pleaded not guilty during their arraignment in 22nd District Court and were each given a $250,000 cash bond. The couple's court appointed attorney said they have three children as young as 2 years old. The attorney also said Miller does hair for a living out of her home.

They remain lodged at the Inkster jail in lieu of bond, according to last reports.

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Northville - Westland

Westland man sent to trial in Northville death

A Westland man has been-bound over for trial in the hit-and-run death of a Northville Township college student.

During a court hearing last week, 35th District Court Judge Michael Gerou determined there was enough evidence to send Gustavo Godinez, 20, to trial in the death of Dominic Duhn. Duhn, 20, was skateboarding on Sheldon Road the night of Sept. 3 when he was struck and killed by moving vehicle. The driver did not stop at the scene.

During the hearing, Northville Township Det. Jon Huerta testified that he had connected paint chips at the scene with the 2012 Ford Escape that Godinez was driving. Godinez will face 10 years in prison if convicted of the felony charge of failing to stop at the scene of an accident, resulting in death.

During the hearing, Huerta said that Godinez was arrested more than a month after the incident. Huerta said Godinez told him during interviews that he thought he might have struck a deer when asked if he recalled hitting anything with his car that night while driving home from work. He said he called his family to tell them he might have struck a deer.

Gerou said from the bench that the death was a "horrible tragedy." Testimony from witnesses indicated that Duhn and his friends were skateboarding with their cell phone lights activated when Duhn was struck and killed. He was a third-year student at Michigan State University and was an Eagle Scout. His friend and fellow Eagle Scout Paul Boran also testified at the hearing admitting that he, Duhn and others had "a few beers" before going to the Sheldon Road hill to skateboard. He said he saw the car coming toward them and that both he and Duhn turned their cell phone lights toward the vehicle. He said he went into the opposite lane and after the car passed, he looked back and saw Duhn on the ground. He made the original 911 call, he testified.

"We don't have any information regarding any unlawful conduct of the vehicle. We just don't have it," Godinez' attorney Francisco Villarruel said. "We don't have any evidence that Mr. Godinez triggered anything that led to this event."

Duhn died at the scene from multiple injuries including ones to his head, neck, torso and pelvis. Godinez will now face trial on the charge in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Gustavo Godinez

Fire grant will fund replacement of defibrillators

Hearts beat a little faster in Westland last week with the announcement of a grant to fund the upgrade and replacement of 10 new cardiac monitor/defibrillators and 15 automated external defibrillators.

The $396,695 grant was awarded to the Westland Fire Department as part of an Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) program. The grant was awarded through a regional effort and inter-departmental collaboration and includes a city match funding portion of 10 percent or $36,066.03.

The new devices will replace and update the monitors Westland purchased several years ago, and will replace and update all the city building automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to new Wi-Fi capable devices where issues will be monitored from the Office of Fire Administration. The additional five monitors will be used to outfit Advanced Life Support engines, officials said.

"Westland currently has five monitors that have some trade-in value which will be used to offset maintenance agreements and upgrade some other equipment that is at end of life that qualifies under the grant," commented Fire Chief Michael Stradtner. "This is a large improvement to our service levels and the costs associated with the monitors was the biggest barrier to Advanced Life Support engines."

"The city depends on grants like these to continue to fund service enhancements for our residents," remarked Mayor William R. Wild. "Every day we count on our firefighters to perform at their best, this is a tool which will help the fire fighters to improve their efficiency and better serve our residents in need."

Street lighting 'enhancement' OK'd for Norwayne

Things are about to get much brighter in the Historic Norwayne District in Westland.

Last week, members of the city council approved a $27,642 contract with DTE Energy for a street lighting enhancement project in the area.

Funding for the improvements will come through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocation.

The project is designed to enhance safety and visibility along Dorsey Road and Grand Traverse and will consist of the addition of six light poles at Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center and the upgrading 18 light fixtures along Grand Traverse. Additionally, two new light poles at Venoy and Grand Traverse and Lincoln-Johnson Field will be installed, according to city officials.

Constructed in 1942, the Norwayne neighborhood is the oldest Westland subdivision. The area was added to the National Registry of Historic places in July of 2013. Erected during World War II for the workers at the Willow Run Bomber Plant and during the war was home to more than 20,000 residents.

"Westland continues to improve safety conditions for motorists and pedestrians who use the city's thoroughfares with LED streetlights," commented Mayor William R. Wild. "These lights use less energy yet provide for enhanced visibility, allowing us to continue to support and practice responsible environmental sustainability."

The project is expected to be completed by the end of January 2021.

Board member is reappointed

Robert Kelly has been reappointed to the Westland Downtown Development Authority Board.

Members of the city council approved the reappointment of the small business owner at the Oct. 19 meeting. Kelly has served on the authority board since 2016 and currently serves as chairperson.

The DDA is governed by an 11 member board appointed by the mayor subject to the approval of the members of the city council. The Downtown Development Authority implements an improvement and business development plan in a commercial district along Ford Road and Wayne Road south of Ford and provides design assistance for redevelopment of commercial properties. Regularly scheduled board meetings take place at 8 a.m. the fourth Thursday of every month at city hall, located at 36300 Warren Road and are open to the public.

Kelly is the owner of Cuda Automotive Services, Inc., located at 1136 N. Wayne Road in Westland.

Robert Kelly

New air cleaner OK'd

Visitors to the Westland Senior Center will be able to take a deep breath of fresh air beginning early next year.

Members of the Westland City Council recently awarded a bid for a state-of-the-art heating, cooling, ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HCVAC) Pathogen Mitigation project which will eliminate airborne viruses at the senior center on Newburgh Road.

This is the same technology used in hospitals for many years to address swine flu, SARS, MERS and other infectious diseases, officials noted.

Members of the council accepted the recommendation of the city administration recommendation to award the contract to the lowest responsive vendor, Climate Technology Mechanical LC, at a total expense not to exceed $72,174. The project will be funded through the annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocation in the city.

"In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is vitally important we invest in improvements to increase safety measures, particularly for our seniors, who are the most vulnerable to suffering severe effects from contracting the disease," commented Mayor William R. Wild.

In discussion with city contractors, the project is expected to be completed by Jan. 1, 2021, officials said.

Classified

TO PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD CALL 734-467-1900

32. Help Wanted Drivers

NOW HIRING Penske Logistics expects to hire full-time warehouse workers to support our essential food warehouse operations in Romulus, MI.

Warehouse positions include order selectors for the 2nd shift. $16.55-$22.55 per hour with performance/ safety bonus opportunity. Interviews are being conducted via phone and following social distancing protocols.

1 year experience warehousing or material-handling preferred. Apply Today! 855-759-7098

59. Auctions

FIVE STAR STORE IT
5235 MERRIMAN RD
WESTLAND, MI 48186
734-721-4670

THE FOLLOWING UNITS WILL BE UP FOR AUCTION ONLINE STARTING NOVEMBER 20, 2020 AT 12:00 GO TO STORAGEAUCTIONS.COM

GOLDRING, JAMES
- WESTLAND -
TV, 2 MOWERS, BLOWER, 3 WEED WACKERS, BOXES, HEATER

HENDERSON, MAYGAN
- WAYNE -
FISHING POLES, CORN HOLE GAME, SKATE BOARD, CAR SEAT, TOYS, TELESCOPE, BIKE, TOTES, PLASTIC BAGS, BED FRAME, MISC TOOLS

RICHARDSON, TILA
- WESTLAND -
2 KID'S CARS, PLASTIC BAGS, LAMP, BLENDER, BOX OF POTS & PANS, AIR FRYER

THIOUNE, MELISSA
- DEARBORN HGTS -
PROPANE TANKS, EXERCISE EQUIPMENT, MISC CAR PARTS, DRESSERS, BED FRAME, BOXES, ELECTRIC MOWER

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Plymouth - Wayne

Making strides

Bottle and can returns help fund cancer drive

Julie Brown
Special Writer

Jill Lezotte-Kates has a unique approach to help fund Making Strides Against Breast Cancer through Avon.

"My mother is a survivor. I want there to be a cure," said Lezotte-Kates, a Westland Rotarian and Wayne resident. In addition to helping the cause through her Avon sales, she has returned a small mountain of cans and bottles as part of her fundraising too.

Avon is the National Presenting Sponsor for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. Lezotte-Kates' mother lost her mother and a sister to breast cancer, and also has two additional sisters, while a brother and a niece are survivors.

Lezotte-Kates said her fervent wish is for a cure "when and if me, my daughter or my granddaughter get breast cancer." She took action as a fundraiser, including collecting the returnable cans and bottles.

She has returned $3,437 in bottles and cans with total contributions for 2020 at $5,152.

The pandemic means that Making Strides Against Breast Cancer events have gone virtual. She notes attendance of some 25,000 in past years at Detroit. This year, fundraising took a hit as a result of in-person Detroit and Ann Arbor events being canceled.

To make a donation, go to: http://main.acsevents.org/goto/JMLKates

Jill Lezotte-Kates, of Wayne, right, and Miranda Freed, bag and sort the mountains of cans and bottles they have collected to help Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. Lezotte-Kates and Freed also support the effort through their Avon sales.

Fire hydrants to be flushed and winterized

Plymouth residents may experience some intermittent low water pressure for the next week or so as city workers continue to flush and winterize lower all fire hydrants.

The work began Oct. 12 and will continue into the middle of November, according to officials. The Plymouth Department of Municipal Services crews will be flushing and winterizing all fire hydrants throughout the city over the next few weeks.

Officials cautioned that it is possible residents in some areas may experience lower water pressure and/or discolored water for a brief time. If either of these circumstances occurs, officials advise running cold water for several minutes to flush out the residential plumbing. Discoloration that may occur is due to natural minerals in the water being stirred up in the hydrant flushing process, they said.

Officials said that tap water will remain safe to drink at all times throughout this annual maintenance. More information is available from the Plymouth Municipal Services Department, (734) 453-7737 or dms@plymouthmi.gov.

COVID-19 strikes police and city hall employees

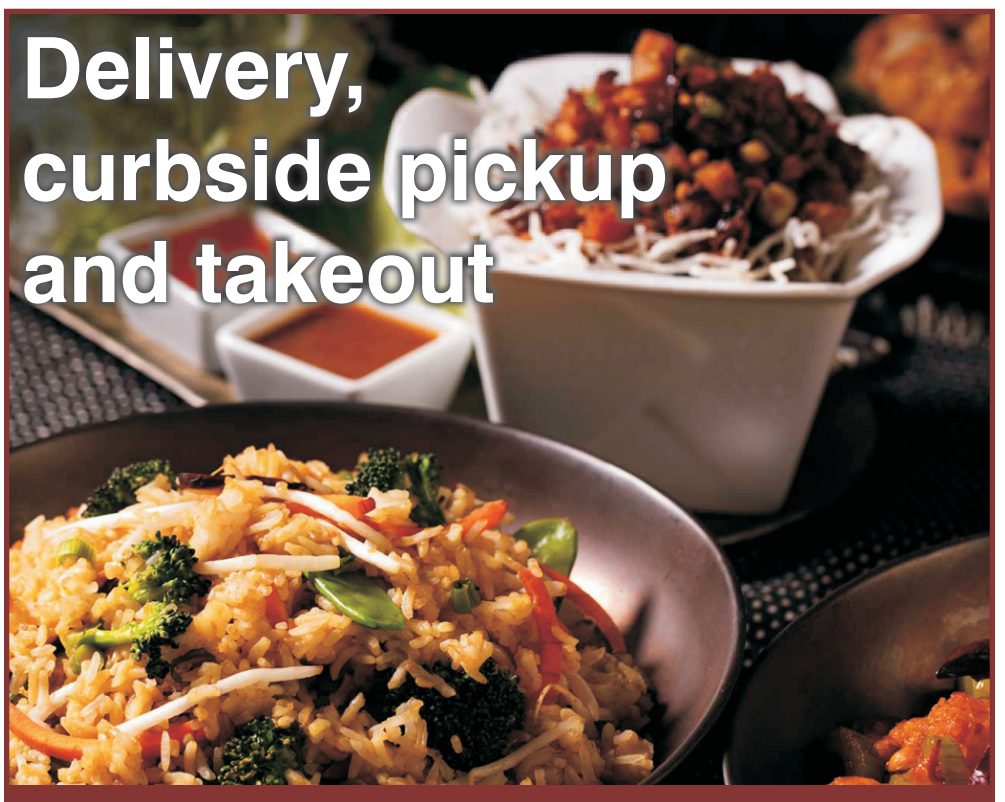
Three officers from the Wayne Police Department have tested positive for COVID-19, according to an official posting from the department. The officers who tested positive last worked Oct. 29 and anyone who had direct contact with a Wayne Police Department officer recently should consider getting tested for the virus, police officials said.

Last week, officials said that two employees at Wayne City Hall had recently also tested positive for COVID-19, necessitating the closure of the building.

Only election matters will be handled at the building until further notice according to city officials. The other 18 employees at city hall have all been tested for the virus and all those results were negative, according to an official notice from the city. That testing, however, took place before the second employee became ill and was confirmed to have COVID last week. The infected staff member was not in regular contact with the public but officials are requesting all those who visited city hall during the past week to monitor themselves for COVID-19 symptoms. City hall is only open for election matters only and only one person will be allowed inside the building at a time for those services in the city clerk's office, officials said. A sanitizing and disinfecting is planned for the building.

The public can use the drop boxes outside the doors for ballots and bill payments.

COVID-19 testing sites can be found here: https://www.michigan.gov/.



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Dear citizens of Plymouth Township:

We'd like to thank you for the great honor of serving for these last four years on your Board of Trustees.

You're the best!

We should all be proud of the progress that has been made in greater governmental transparency, community building through shared spaces, and vital economic development.

With gratitude,
Gary Heitman and Jack Dempsey

Schools

FROM PAGE 1

began the year at 100 percent virtual learning for middle and high school students and will review the plan, as required, this month. Last week, the members of the board of education unanimously approved a resolution for secondary students in grades 6-12 to continue receiving instruction in a fully virtual model through the end of the first semester on Jan. 22. The resolution also specified that opportunities for in-person support will be provided for students with academic and social-emotional needs, including specialized classes, throughout the remainder of the first semester.

Superintendent of Plymouth Canton Community Schools Monica Merritt urged strict safety precautions.

"We encourage all members of our school community to adhere to recommended health and safety practices for mitigating the spread of COVID-19. This includes wearing a face covering or mask when in close proximity with others, practicing frequent hand washing, allowing for physical distancing whenever possible, and staying home when sick and watching for potential symptoms of illness before going to school each day. We know it's hard, but when possible, stay away from gatherings and other indoor activities that increase the spread of COVID-19," she said.

Superintendent of Romulus Community Schools Dr. Benjamin P. Edmonson also urged safety precautions but noted that his district is at 100 percent virtual classes. He said he fully understands what an inconvenience that is for many families, but that the safety of the students and the staff have to be a priority.

"I certainly don't like it," he said, "because I don't consider myself a virtual superintendent," noting that he enjoys personal interaction with both the students and the staff members.

He said that the virtual learning would continue until the end of the semester in January.

In the Wayne Westland schools, online learning will continue until at least Jan. 20.

Superintendent of Schools John Dignan said the format would continue while the COVID-19 cases are increasing. The district had planned to bring students back next week, but that will not happen with the new restrictions. Dignan said that the current situation does offer some stability to students and families who have established new routines. Dignan noted that the district is also concerned and paying attention to the mental health of students as the online learning continues. He said the current situation is far from perfect but does keep staff and students healthy.

When in-person classes resume, Dignan said, parents and students will have an option to continue the all-online classes.

In Northville, where the students have been placed in quarantine, Gallagher said that up to this latest spike throughout the state, feedback has been favorable "with students, staff, and families demonstrating tremendous flexibility and adapting very quickly to following the health and safety protocols we have in place at school."

In a letter to parents regarding the situation, Gallagher said, "We do not, thus far, have any evidence of positive cases of COVID-19 tracing back to exposure at school or during school hours, and the number of students quarantined as a result of close contacts at school has been minimal up to this point."

She noted that health officials will be monitoring the risk of spread throughout the community to ensure the safety of in person learning.

Sumpter

Board continues to probe false claims

The election may be over, but members of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees still have some concerns about inaccurate and misleading political claims made during the campaign.

> *"Unpaid water billings or tax obligations are not missing money. They may be delinquent but they are not missing.*

At the meeting of the board members Oct. 27, Trustee Tim Rush asked township attorney Rob Young about the status of his investigation into false allegations made by Jim Clark, a candidate for township treasurer. In published claims, Clark had incorrectly stated that there was a large amount of money missing from township bank accounts. Clark offered no proof of the claim and the township recently completed two independent audits of the finances which determined there was no impropriety or any discrepancy in any of the accounts.

The claims, however, were taken seriously by the administration and Supervisor John Morgan suggested that Young determine where Clark might have gotten such misinformation.

Young told the board trustees that he had nothing new to report, although his review had been extensive and was not yet complete. He said he had not yet contacted Clark as he wanted to insure he had all the other information collected prior to submitting it to Clark for his response.

Trustee Matt Oddy said that the board members had taken the allegations seriously and noted that current Treasurer Kenneth Bendark had reversed his endorsement of Clark due to the erroneous claims. Oddy said when amounts were so specific, the board had an obligation to investigated.

"He should be held accountable and responsible for his actions," Oddy said.

Young replied that it is the obligation of the treasurer to be the steward of the township monies and that Bednark knew there was no money missing from any township account.

"Unpaid water billings or tax obligations are not missing money. They may be delinquent but they are not missing," Young said.

Trustee Tim Rush said that this misinformation has continued to spread through the community and that he was asked about it while shopping.

"We have an AA minus bond rating, the audits found no irregularities, no anomalies," he said. "This allegation was made to damage the current administration," Rush said.

Young said he would continue to investigate the matter, although it was taking a great deal of time.

Firefighters seniority, experience recognized

While the pandemic has delayed an official recognition, Sumpter Township firefighters can expect a formal board tribute marking their exemplary service as soon as it is safe.

Members of the board of trustees accepted a large framed photo tribute to the firefighters and acknowledged the long seniority and years of service many of the members of the department had already completed.

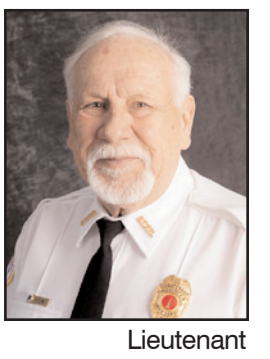
Trustees said they will formally recognize members of the department with more than 10 years of service including Chief Joseph Januszyk - 43 years; Lt. Rick Sliwa - 43 years; Battalion Chief John Krushlin - 35 years; Deputy Chief Rick Brown - 35 years; Battalion Chief Timothy Armstrong - 22 years; Captain Michael McHenry - 20 years; Lt. Michael Wisniewski - 18 years; Firefighter Donald LaPorte - 14 years; Captain Walter Thompson - 10 years.

Firefighters with fewer than 10 years include: Firefighter Eric Long - 7 years; Lt. Jamie Krushlin - 6.3 years; Lt. Jamie Goode - 5.6 years; Firefighter Shauna McCall - 4.9 Years; Firefighter Colleen Armatis - 4.2 years; Firefighter Brian Blackburn - 4 years; Firefighter David Behrendt - 3.2 years; Firefighter Sonya Ingle - 2.8 years; Firefighter Kenneth Myers - 2.4 years; Firefighter Rachel Scott - 1.7 years; Firefighter Richard Landskroener - 1 year; Firefighter Benjamin Combs - 1 year; Firefighter Joseph Jackson - 9 months; Firefighter Chris Zweng - 3 months; Firefighter James Beaumont - a new hire; Firefighter Jacob Kosikowski - a new hire; Chaplain Rhonda Overman - 8 years; Chaplain John Swoffer - 4 years and Chaplain Jordena Swoffer - 4 years.

Resident Mary Mann spoke to the members of the board about her recent interaction with the fire department and noted that Blackburn and Armatis were exemplary in helping her after a recent fall in her home.

"They kept me calm, got myself trapped in my own bedroom," she explained. "They were there within 5 minutes. We have a wonderful fire department and police department," she said.

Chief Joseph Januszyk



Lieutenant Rick Sliwa

Battalion Chief John Krushlin

Deputy Chief Rick Brown

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